



North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources

Beverly Eaves Perdue, Governor

Dee Freeman, Secretary

Program Narrative Statement Template for American Recovery and Reinvestment Act Funded Programs

Based on Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Circular No. A-102: Program Narrative Statement Requirements

Title: North Carolina CWPP, Firewise, , and Fuels Mitigation Enhancement Program

Abstract: Contractors will be hired to prepare Community Wildfire Protection Plans (CWPPs), Firewise plans, and conduct fuels reduction treatments on identified high fire risk areas.

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Justification: North Carolina has experienced an unprecedented rate of development over the past 5 years. This has led to more communities in the state being at risk to wildland fire. North Carolina has averaged 5,309 fires annually from 1999 to 2008 burning in excess of 26,000 acres every year. The 2000 Wildland-Urban Interface in the U.S.: Maps, Statistics, and GIS Data Library report conducted by the University of Wisconsin-Madison indicated that NC has the most wildland-urban interface area in the US at 12+ million acres. North Carolina has over 8,500 communities identified as high and very high risk to wildfire damage to their community based on the likelihood of fire occurring in areas surrounding the community, ("Fire in the South 2"). It is rare that a wildland fire occurs in NC that does not threaten a home/structure. The combined homes/structures protected from wildland fire in 2007 and 2008 in NC were 13,459.

Community Wildfire Protection Plans (CWPPs) are widely recognized as the planning tool most appropriate to identify and address communities that are threatened by wildfire. The NC Division of Forest Resources (NCDFR) has determined that these plans will be conducted on a fire department response district scale. There are approximately 1,400 fire districts in North Carolina. This allows working closely with local fire departments, community leaders, State and Federal land management agencies and concerned citizens. The CWPP, as part of the assessment process, identifies communities at risk. Firewise programs are then implemented in these high risk communities. The Firewise program is designed to enhance community and individual involvement in protecting communities and structures from wildfire. The CWPPs will be combined at the county level to supplement the county Hazard Mitigation Plan. The county plans will be combined to supplement the State Hazard Mitigation Plan.

NC has 13 nationally recognized Firewise communities as of June 1, 2009 with a handful of others in various stages of completing the criteria for national recognition.



The CWPPs and Firewise assessments will identify high risk areas where wildland fuels pose a risk to the public. Fuel mitigation is one way to reduce the risk and severity of a wildland fire. The use of prescribed fire and/or mechanical fuel treatment is effective in lessening the risk to emergency responders and the public at large.

North Carolina has the sixth (6th) highest unemployment in the nation as of April 2009, <http://www.bls.gov/web/laumstrk.htm> at 10.8%. The goal is to cluster high unemployment rate counties together for efficient use of the CWPP contractors' time and effort. This will allow a concentration of work by contractor(s) to create jobs and insert economic recovery money into local economies. Fuels mitigation work will be completed Statewide and focus on areas where previous CWPP and Firewise work has been completed. As other CWPP's are completed fuel mitigation work will be incorporated into these areas.

Scope of Work:

CWPP/Firewise Assessments

Three areas (1 in each geographic region) have been identified in the State in which to focus CWPP accomplishments. 33 counties were chosen based primarily upon unemployment rate and areas of the State where very little CWPP work has been accomplished. There are approximately 110 fire districts in each geographical area. Funding is projected to complete 330 CWPPs statewide. Contractors will be used to collect fire district and county wildland fire pre-planning and/or pre-attack data in a GIS and North Carolina Division of Forest Resources (DFR) CWPP database format. Firewise assessments will be completed using the National Fire Protection Association's (NFPA) 1144 form and assessments will be summarized in GIS and DFR database format. An assistant CWPP manager will be hired internally to help manage this assessment program

Hazardous Fuels Mitigation

Contractors will be hired to accomplish fuel mitigation projects on a statewide level. The initial work will focus around those areas that already have a CWPP or a Firewise plan in place that indicate fuels mitigation recommendations as part of the plan. The program would expand as more assessments are completed. Three hazardous mitigation managers will be hired (1 for each geographic region) to prioritize projects, package fuel mitigation work, locate contractors and submit bid packages. The managers would also oversee the work for quality, environmental regulation compliance, data collection, report writing, etc.

Methodology: NCDENR's CWPP sampling methods will be used to populate a fire district's database. These methods and database were developed by NCDENR. Field data collection methods using ESRI ArcPad and Trimble GPS will also be used. Monitoring of project status will be accomplished by sampling the database. Each completed CWPP will be supplied to NCDENR personnel to add the fuel mitigation measures to high risk communities. Fuel mitigation projects will be monitored as work is done and completed tracts will be entered into the CWPP data base.

Project Milestones	
Time Period	Activities
When official award occurs	Begin the process of hiring 5 additional fire staff personnel <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 Assistant State CWPP Manager • 3 Hazardous Fuel Mitigation Managers • 1 ARRA Grant/Contract Administrative Assistant
8/1/09	CWPP contracts sent out for bid to vendors.
9/1/09	CWPP contracts awarded.
9/15/09	CWPP Contractor Training - Local Hazard Assessment Introduction, Introduction to area of work, Introduction to Fuels, Introduction to local rangers and foresters. Develop contact list and build strong relationships with local partners and county rangers.
10/1/09	Begin packaging fuel mitigation projects for bid to contractors.
11/15/09	Begin fuel mitigation project work.
6/1/10	Complete 50% of the Fire district CWPPs hazard assessments and background data. Build associated CWPP GIS layers (Preparedness and Hazard Assessment layers).
2/1/11	Complete 100% of the Fire District CWPPs hazard assessments and background data. Build associated CWPP GIS layers (Preparedness and Hazard Assessment layers).
4/1/11	Complete prevention, mitigation, and preparedness recommendation data entry. Facilitate round table meetings with emergency services and DFR.
6/1/11	Audit and complete all CWPP documentation packages and GIS layers for NCDFR. Submit to NCDFR CWPP Coordinator or designee.
7/1/11	Audit and complete all fuel mitigation documentation packages and GIS layers.

Geographical Location:

CWPP assessments will be located in the following Congressional Districts. Counties are shown in figure 1.

Senator Richard Burr (R)
Senator Kay Hagan (D)

District 1 Rep. George Butterfield (D)
District 2 Rep. Bob Etheridge (D)
District 3 Rep. Walter Jones (R)
District 5 Virginia Fox (R)
District 9 Sue Myrick (R)

District 10 Patrick McHenry (R)
District 11 Heath Shuler (D)
District 13 Bradley Miller (D)

Supplemental Budget Sheet

Position Title	Salary Range for Position	Number of People	Years	Project Costs
Hazardous Fuel Mitigation Manager	\$43,939	3	2	\$ 263,634.00
Assistant State CWPP Manager	\$43,939	1	2	\$ 87,878.00
Grant Administrative Assistant	\$43,939	0.5	2	\$ 43,939.00
TOTAL				\$ 395,451.00

Benefit Percentage in decimal form	Total Salary Cost	Total Benefit Cost
19%	\$ 395,451.00	\$75,135.69

Location	Purpose	Project Costs
Lodging - statewide	CWPP/Mitigation	\$ 92,000.00
Meals - statewide	CWPP/Mitigation	\$ 40,000.00
Fuel (gas & diesel) - statewide	CWPP/Mitigation	\$ 100,000.00
TOTAL		\$ 232,000.00

List Equipment	Quantity	Project Costs
Rayco + Transport	1	\$ 250,000.00
GPS Units	4	\$ 14,000.00
Computers	3	\$ 15,000.00
Camera	3	\$ 2,000.00
PPE	3	\$ 3,000.00
Printers	3	\$ 1,000.00
Video Camera	3	\$ 3,000.00
High band Radio	5	\$ 3,000.00
TOTAL		\$ 291,000.00

Supplies	Category	Project Costs
	Office supplies	\$ 10,000.00
	Training Materials	\$ 1,000.00
TOTAL		\$ 11,000.00

Supplemental Budget Sheet

Contract Type	Project Costs
Vehicle	\$ 64,000.00
CW/PP/Firewise Contract	\$ 2,000,000.00
Hazardous Fuel Mitigation Contract	\$ 1,500,855.03
TOTAL	\$ 3,564,855.03

Item	Quantity	Project Costs
Cell Phones	3	\$ 3,000.00
Air Cards	3	\$ 3,000.00
TOTAL		\$ 6,000.00

Indirect Costs	Indirect Rate	Total Grant Amount	Total Indirect Costs
	0.229	\$ 395,451.00	\$ 90,558.28

Amount Obligated \$ 4,666,000.00
 Award Amount \$ 4,666,000.00
 Amount Available \$ 0.00